

Judge Carol A. Schapira

Judge Carol A. Schapira has served on the King County Superior Court bench since 1989. She served as chair of the Superior Court Judges' Association (SCJA) Equality and Fairness Committee and as the SCJA treasurer. She is an active member of the Pro Se, Sealed File, and Courts and Community committees in the King County Superior Court. She was the chair for a group of law students, judges, lawyers, and volunteers who are just completing the Sexual Assault Benchbook, a project of the Gender and Justice Commission and others. She has presided over Criminal, Civil, Family, and Juvenile cases, including two years with the Family Treatment Court, for parents struggling with addiction. While in Juvenile Court she received advanced training on preserving families with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She is a Fellow of the Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resources, which brings science training to judges nationally.

For six years, Judge Schapira served on the SCJA Education Committee and was a presenter on statewide programs on Implicit Bias, aging judges, disabilities in the courts, sexual assault protection orders, addiction, and cultural competency. She has also lectured and judged advocacy training for NITA, bar associations, and other mock trial programs.

Before being elected, Judge Schapira represented a diverse set of clients: plaintiffs alleging sex and race discrimination, criminal defendants, persons called to testify before a grand jury, protestors, amicus in a landmark lesbian mothers' custody case, and worked for the Wounded Knee Legal Offense/Defense Committee. She was the director of the legal services at the Seattle Indian Center and taught a class for Native Americans at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary. She has served as senior trial attorney for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and as adjunct professor at Seattle University. She was also in private practice in Seattle representing corporate clients in complex litigation.

Judge Schapira graduated from Hofstra University magna cum laude as a math major in 1969, and from Harvard Law School in 1972.